

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Diehl takes third; leads Towns to fourth at State Golf Tournament

By Todd Forrest  
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Augusta - Lady Indians' Danielle Diehl saved one of her best performances for when her team needed it the most.

The junior shot a 21-over, 93 at the Class A Public State Golf Tournament at Pointe South Golf Course in Augusta for a third place tie out of 34 golfers vying for a State title.

Junior Mia Manto shot a 101 for the Indians' second lowest round of the day. The duo's total of 194 left Towns just one shot back of third place Trion and five back of second place and defending State Champion Schley County. Commerce took home top prize with a 175.

"Mia (Manto) always competes strongly in the Area and the State (Tournaments), and competes well for her team," Lady Indians Golf Coach Brett Keller said.

Towns County senior Am-



The Towns County Lady Indians golfers in the clubhouse following their 2014 Area Championship.

ber Williams checked in with a 102 and freshman Kenzie Jenkins recorded a 107.

"We didn't have our best

day at State by any means but that's okay," Coach Keller said. "We're still a young team and we're expecting a big year next

year." Commerce sophomore Akyn Trudnak shot a tournament low 81. The defending State

Low Medalist Jordan Booker, a junior from Schley County finished second with an 11-over 83. Trion's Reagan Middleton matched Diehl with a 93.

Diehl, who finished a shot ahead of fifth place Hannah McRee of Commerce, started her round on the tenth hole and would record a par on the 14th hole, a 112-yard par 3 for a 47 on the back nine.

She fired a 46 on the front nine with pars on the 451-yard par 5 sixth hole and the 330-yard par 4 eighth hole.

Manto's 102 featured pars on holes 10, 13, 14, and 15, while Williams picked up a par on the par 4 eighth.

"She (Williams) was a great senior leader for us," Coach Keller said. "She always showed the right way to do things for the younger girls. She led by her actions and she's been with me for three years, since we started the golf program."

Jenkins, the Area 4 Tournament's Low Medalist scored a

par on the 17th - a par 3.

"For a ninth grader like Kenzie Jenkins to play in the final group with two seniors and a defending State Champion (Booker) speaks a lot of her talent and ability," Coach Keller said. "She was in a very veteran group and they were all business."

Diehl improved by 16 strokes since her last outing which came in last month's Area 4 Public Golf Tournament where she shot a 109. She also shot a 108 at State last year.

"She has improved so much that it's unbelievable how far she has come," Coach Keller said. "To finish third in the State as an individual, she has worked very hard to get where she is right now."

"She spent a lot of time doing some individual work that has helped the team out. She has really improved her game tremendously and I expect big things out of her next year."

## YHC announces Clay Dotson Open Golf Tournament Champions

The annual Clay Dotson Open golf tournament to benefit student scholarships at Young Harris College was recently held on May 19 at Brasstown Valley Resort. Approximately 160 players enjoyed morning and afternoon flights followed by an awards ceremony.

Prize categories included overall winners for each flight as well as second and third place for each flight, longest drive and closest to the pin. The tournament also featured an Alumni Team Challenge in which a prize was awarded to the team of four YHC alumni with the lowest score.

Prizes for the tournament were awarded as follows: **Morning Flight:** Flight 1 Winner: Adam Cohen, David Cochran, Richard Oats.

Flight 2 Winner: Patrick Lovelace, Clint Hobbs, Kevin Floyd, Jim Bason.

Flight 1 Second Place: Bo Wright, Dr. Clay Dotson, Sam Wilson, Gene Clopton.

Flight 2 Second Place: Brian Mashburn, Randy Curtis, Dale Anderson, Colton Payne.

Flight 1 Third Place: Roger Miller, Mike Kelley, Conner Kelley, Jack Kelley.

Flight 2 Third Place: Jim Stewart, Larry DesPres, Tim Holcomb, Greg Norton.

Closest to the Pin: Matt Henson; Longest Drive: Joe Winters.

**Afternoon Flight:** Flight 1 Winner: Greg Jensen, Jason Hanson, Steve Conrad, Kevin Macey.

Flight 2 Winner: Bobby Rogers, Ethan Rogers, Angus Guberman, Bobby Burch.

Flight 1 Second Place: Eric Bram, Joe Winters, Chet Roach.

Flight 2 Second Place: Mike Patton, Brett Owenby, Cooper Patton, Phillip Stubblefield.

Flight 1 Third Place: Andy Burks, Scott Rich, Rick Davenport, Matthew Mashburn.

Flight 2 Third Place: Andrew Harris, Chris Bontrager, Bob Catalano.

Closest to the Pin: Bob

Burch; Longest Drive: Philip Stubblefield.

**Alumni Challenge Winners:** Scott Rich, Andy Burks, Rick Davenport, Matthew Mashburn.

The students, faculty, staff and administration of Young Harris College extend thanks to the generous sponsors of the 2014 Clay Dotson Open: A & A Auto Rental, Advanced Disposal, Allegion, Allied Communications, AmeriGas, Andrew Hammock & Powell, ArtBytes, Atlantic Capital Bank, Batch-

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Afternoon First Flight First Place



Afternoon Second Flight First Place



Alumni Team

## NASCAR 2014

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

### Johnson gets seventh Charlotte victory

Jimmie Johnson collected his seventh points win at Charlotte, by winning Sunday's Coca-Cola 600 ahead of Kevin Harvick, making him the winningest driver in the history of the speedway.

"This was really a great win," said Johnson. "To deal with all the things that are thrown at a race team through the evening with the track changing, the mechanical obstacles that you have to overcome, keeping an engine alive, tires alive, all of it. It's a serious team effort to finish 600 miles. And then win here, especially as hard as we had to run throughout the night, the pace we had to keep up, I'm certainly proud of that."

Johnson led 10 times for 164 laps, the most of any driver, but he got behind near the end of the 600-mile race and had to race his way back to the front. The race's last caution came on lap 383. Johnson was eighth on the restart, but by lap 393, he had passed the other leaders and only Matt Kenseth was between him and victory lane. One lap later, he put Kenseth in his rear view mirror, and cruised to his first win of the season.

Kevin Harvick had a fast car and led five times for 100 laps, but could not catch Johnson near the end of the race.

"I look at it as we let them slip one in front of us by shooting ourselves in the foot," said Harvick. "You knew that was going to come. They've won championships and done a great job through the years. They were solid all weekend, didn't make any mistakes, kept themselves up front all night and won the race."

"We continued to make mistakes on pit road just like last week. Even when we have the fastest car we can't win."

Matt Kenseth, who started 12th, led four times for 33 laps, and came in third.

"We had a top-5 car, but we didn't quite have enough for the 48," said Kenseth. "I thought we had a chance, but we needed



Jimmie Johnson, winner of Coca-Cola 600 Photo by Christa Thomas

just a little bit more." Carl Edwards was fourth, followed by Jamie McMurray, Brian Vickers, Jeff Gordon, Paul Menard, Kyle Busch, and Brad Keselowski.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. had engine problems and finished 19th. Danica Patrick, who started 4th was involved in two separate accidents, and had an engine let go in her No. 10 Chevrolet. She wound up 39th.

Her teammate Kurt Busch saw his night go up in smoke on lap 271 after an engine failure.

Top-16 Chase leaders after 12 of 36: 1. Gordon-432, 2. Kenseth-421, 3. Kyle Busch-408, 4. Edwards-408, 5. Earnhardt-394, 6. Johnson-388, 7. Logano-378, 8. Vickers-365, 9. Keselowski-361, 10. Newman-361, 11. Biffle-351, 12. Harvick-345, 13. Larson-344, 14. Hamlin-340, 15. A. Dillon-334, 16. Hendrick-328.

### HUNTER-REAY WINS 2014 INDY 500

Ryan Hunter-Reay passed Helio Castroneves with two laps to go in Sunday's 200-lap Indianapolis 500, and then held off Castroneves to win by just 0.06-seconds.

"It's a dream come true," said Hunter-Reay, who is the first American winner since Sam Hornish Jr. in 2006. "This (race) is American history; it is better than a championship. I hope the fans loved it because I was on the edge of my seat."

Castroneves, who started fourth, led five times for 38 laps.



Ryan Hunter-Reay, winner of the 2014 Indy 500. Photo by Chris Jones/Courtesy of IMS.

Marcos Andreotti finished third, followed by Carlos Munoz, Juan Montoya, Kurt Busch, Sebastian Bourdais, Will Power, Sage Karan, and JR Hildebrand.

Tony Kanaan, the 2013 winner was 26th.

Kurt Busch, a regular on the NASCAR Sprint Cup circuit was the highest finishing rookie. As soon as the race was over, Busch flew to Charlotte in time for the NASCAR Coca-Cola 600.

### LARSON GETS CHARLOTTE NATIONWIDE WIN

Rookie, Kyle Larson won his second Nationwide Series race of the season as he held off some of NASCAR's big guns, Saturday at Charlotte.

"It was a perfect day for us," said Larson. "We had a good car on long runs, but it wasn't too good on the short ones. The race just played out in our favor."

Brad Keselowski finished second, followed by Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick, Brian Scott, Matt Kenseth, Regan Smith, Trevor Bayne Chris Buescher, and Ty Dillon.

Top-10 leaders after 11 of 33: 1. Smith-414, 2. Sadler-409, 3. Elliott-386, 4. Bayne-379, 5. T. Dillon-376, 6. Scott-354, 7. Gaughan-309, 8. J. Buescher-303, 9. C. Buescher-295, 10. Kwasniewski-285.

### NASCAR ANNOUNCES 2015 HOF INDUCTEES

Five new drivers have been voted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame. They are: Bill Elliott, Fred Lorenzen, Joe Weatherly, Rex White, and Wendell Scott.

By most racing standards

White did not always have the fastest car, but from 1959 through 1963, he won more races than any other driver.

He captured 36 poles and 28 victories in 233 starts in only nine years.

His competition included the best racers; Fireball Roberts, Lee Petty, Junior Johnson, Ned Jarrett, Curtis Turner, Buck Baker and Joe Weatherly.

But his entire racing career was done on a shoestring budget.

"I don't have any idea what it cost to run a season, but it was more than I had," said White. "Remembering all those figures 50-something years ago is kind of tough for me. I probably didn't keep up with the costs even back then."

"I kept books in my left, rear pocket. When there wasn't any money there, I wasn't taking in enough."

"We didn't write down anything. We had no bookkeeping system. But it got the job done. When I won the championship, I got almost \$13,000. You can see what a big difference there is between then and now."

Bill Elliott started racing regularly in 1974. In a 37-year driving career, Bill's 44 wins rank 16th all-time and his 55 poles rank eighth. But his most prestigious accomplishment came in 1988 when he won the Winston Cup championship with six wins, 15 top-fives and 22 top-10s in 29 races.

Fred Lorenzen was one of NASCAR's first true "part-timers" even though he was a "superstar" driver, never running more than 29 of the season's 50-plus races. Lorenzen's best overall season came in 1963 as he finished with six wins, 21 top-fives and 23 top-10s in 29 starts. Despite missing 26 races that season, he finished third in the standings. In 1965, he won two of NASCAR's major events - the Daytona 500 and the World 600.

Joe Weatherly won two championships (1962-63) and 25 races in NASCAR's premier

series. When he won his first NASCAR premier series championship, in 1962, he drove for legendary owner Bud Moore. When he repeated as champion a year later, he drove for nine different teams.

Wendell Scott was the first African-American to race full time in NASCAR's premier series, as well as the first to win a NASCAR premier series race. Scott posted a remarkable 147 top 10s and 495 starts during his 13-year premier series career.

**Weekend Racing:** The Cup, Nationwide, and truck teams will be at the 1-mile Dover, Delaware track.

Fri., May 30, Camping World truck race 5 of 22; Starting time: 5 pm ET; TV: FoxSports1.

Sat., May 31, Nationwide Series race 12 Of 33; Starting time: 2 pm ET; TV: ESPN.

Sun., June 1, Sprint Cup race 13 of 36; Starting time: 12:30 pm ET; TV: Fox.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Where is Joe Nemechek's hometown?

**Last Week's Question:** When was the first 600-lap race held at Charlotte? It was run in 1960 and known as the World 600. It was won by Joe Lee Johnson.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodges@race500.com.

### Summer Day Camp at Rec Center

Summer is just around the corner and that means hot weather and Summer Day Camp for boys and girls ages 6 thru 12. This summer the Recreation Department will offer 3 sessions of day camp. Each session is two weeks, running Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You may bring your child between 7:30 and 9 a.m. and pick your child up between 4 and 4:30 p.m.

Session dates are as follows: Session I June 2nd thru June 13th; Session II June 16th thru June 27th; Session III July 7th thru July 18th. Our Day Camp of-

### Youth Football Registration

Towns County Youth Football will be holding registration at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center from 2 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on May 31st, June 7th, June 14th, June 21st and June 28th for the upcoming season. Ages of eligibility are 5 -12 years old. The registration fee is \$90 which includes insurance. If your child has not played before, you will need to bring a copy of your child's birth certificate when registering.

The first practice for the 2014 Season will be on July 14th from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Towns County High School Practice Field.

There will also be a one day camp held on July 12th from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Towns County High School Practice Field. There will be no cost for this camp.

If you have any questions, you may contact Jimmy Smith at 706-835-6176.

### VFW Golf League news

Thursday, 5/22/14, we had a gorgeous day and we were graced with 2 lovely ladies, for which we are always happy to see. There were 18 players today, 3 four-somes and 2 threesomes. The winning team consisted of Bill Kiser, Ray Ward, Glen Greenwald, and Jake Jackson who came in with a score of 65, seven under par. Great shooting fellas. Second place came in with a score of 69. Keep in mind that on Tuesday, June 3, we have tentative plans to play in Helen. Hope to see ya'll there.

fers children sport game activities, social game activities, field trips, nature hikes and much more. Give your child a lot to do this summer by signing them up for Day Camp. You may send your child to any or all of the sessions. Children need to bring a swimsuit, towel, sprayable sunscreen and sack lunch. The Recreation department will furnish drinks for the campers. No pre-registration required, just show up at the new Recreation Center for camp located off of Mining Gap Trail at 150 Foster Park Rd.

For more information please call us at 706-896-2600.